



# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.



AUGUSTA:  
THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 3, 1853.

## OUR LYCEUM.

This institution has now become a fixed fact among us, and we are glad it is so. Probably in no other way, with so small an expenditure of money, could so large an amount of pleasure and real, solid profit be secured to our citizens, as by the establishment of a Lyceum in their midst. It is useless to attempt to enumerate the benefits that result from this thing. Not the least is the privilege of hearing (and, we fear, with many, the pleasure of *seeing*), the great men of the day, and feasting the mind with the rich treasures of their intellectual acquirements. In a course of Lyceum lectures, every taste has opportunity for gratification. Those who like to hear of travels in other countries, those who go to be enlightened with regard to some misty point in the arts and sciences, or to hear some great light of the day dwelt upon, and see his weak and strong points held up to their view, as well as those who attend such places to have their risibles excited, and to hear some amusing and entertaining discourse—all can be satisfied, perhaps, seated, with what is set before them.

But, as we understand it, these are not the highest recommendations of our Lyceum. It is not instituted to meet the wants of any one particular class of people, or requirements of the mind. It is for all, and especially for the improvement of all. There can be no greater aid to the morality and good renown of any place, than a Lyceum, well sustained, and faithfully and carefully carried out. The young people—those who are to take the places of the generation now on the stage of life, and fast passing away—are to have their characters formed, their future course in life determined by the direction which the present give them. Lyceums give them a taste for literary pursuits and home pleasures—a taste that once acquired will cling to a person through life—a taste that will surely make a good citizen, a faithful parent, and an obedient child.

We believe that none will dispute the fact we have above declared, and we think too, that they will further agree with us in believing that they are not the only part of our community in whom a like taste for intellectual pursuits and home pleasures is formed.

We do not believe that the hundreds who are regular attendants through the whole course of our Lyceum, are no better at the end, than they were at the beginning of the course—that they have not added to their store of knowledge, but also many of real advantage and profit—and which will be remembered always, with undiminished gratification, throughout the remainder of their lives. Not we. And therefore let us make the Lyceum as much a part of the training which we give our children, as we do the common school. Let us cherish and foster our Lyceum till it can no more be dispensed with than the observance of the Sabbath. In the words of one of the ancient writers, "Esto perpetua,"—may it be perpetual!

The coming course of lectures promises to be as interesting and profitable as any of its predecessors. Among the lecturers who are already engaged, are Wendell Phillips, Esq., of Boston; Rev. W. R. Alger, of Roxbury; Rev. R. C. Waterston, Rev. John Pierpont, Rev. R. S. Storrs, Jr., Timothy Bigelow, Esq., and Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. Other distinguished and able lecturers are also secured.

The following are the officers of the institution for the present season:—

President—Lot M. Morrill, Esq.

Vice President—Joseph H. Williams, Esq.

Treasurer—Edward Fenn, Esq.

Secretary—Newton Edwards, Esq.

Directors—Albert G. Dole, Wm. R. Smith, Edward Fenn, Samuel Titcomb, Newton Edwards, Wm. P. M. Meuns, and Daniel C. Stanwood.

The course will open on Friday, the 18th inst., with a lecture from Wendell Phillips, Esq., of Boston. Tickets for the course may be obtained of Mr. Fenn. We shall make some note of the lectures during the coming course, and will endeavor to keep our readers duly informed of whatever may be of interest connected with the Lyceum.

**GREAT FIRE IN PROVIDENCE, R. I.** On Wednesday night of last week, about 11 o'clock, a fire broke out in the dry goods store of William I. Ellis, in Howard Block, on Westminster street, spreading rapidly through the block, which was totally destroyed with almost its entire contents. The flames then spread to the Museum building, which was entirely destroyed, with nearly all its contents. The loss to the lessee of the Museum, in scenery, properties, &c., is heavy. The building west of Howard block, eight buildings on the north, and two more east of the Museum, were also destroyed. The Providence papers give full accounts of this great fire, which has never been equalled since the great conflagration of January 22, 1801. The whole loss is estimated at \$240,000, insured at \$130,000.

**HORTICULTURE.** Dr. E. J. Ford, of Gardner, this week sent us a fine specimen of native and Isabella grapes. The native grapes, though much withered and shrunk, were very sweet and palatable, and the Isabellas were also nice. Dr. F. obtained the premium for grapes exhibited at the cattle show and fair at Gardner. Dr. Ford also sent us several ears of his "large, late sweet corn," which grew from 9 to 10 feet in height, and bore two ears to a stalk," not as a wag at our elbow insinuated, two stalks to an ear! The corn is very handsome, and we should think would be a profitable kind for planting.

**BEHIND THE TIMES.** The Boston Journal speaks of Augusta as a "town." Really, friend Sleeper, we think your name is quite significant, for we gave up that term some four or five years ago, for the more aristocratic title of "city." But we do not wonder that you are not "puffed up" on such matters, for we see in another column, that you have just received "Brown's Almanac and Pocket Diary for 1854!" Only one hundred years before the invention of printing. We should like to see one of them.

**ACCIDENT.** We learn from the Bath Mirror that Mr. A. J. Bloom, was severely and it is feared fatally injured, on Tuesday morning of last week, at the ship yard of Jenks & Harding, by the falling of a stage pole upon him. His shoulder and ankle were broken, and his side was badly crushed.

## THE SEARCH FOR SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

The California papers by the last arrival have the following paragraphs concerning the search for Sir John Franklin. They derive their information from Capt. Fordham, of bark *Harriet Ann*, lately from the Arctic regions. They say that Capt. Fordham thinks that all further search for the Erebus and Terror is useless. On the 15th of August, he saw one of the ships of the searching expedition, supposed to be the *Plover*. She was then in the Arctic Sea, between Prince of Wales Head and Diomedes Islands. She was bound north, and would probably winter in Plover Bay (named after her), which was her place of refuge last winter. Capt. F. exchanged signals for her, but the signals were mutually misunderstood. At the time she was seen, the sea was entirely clear of ice, though the same dense fog which had hung over the waters for two months still prevailed. Another ship belonging to the Exploring Expedition was in Port Clarence on the 19th of July.

**OPINIONS OF THE ESKIMO.** Capt. F. held numerous conversations with the Esquimaux Indians at places where he landed with three boats. So many expeditions had been sent during the last five years, that many of them could talk intelligibly on the subject of Sir John Franklin. Their arguments were such as to discourage all further search for the missing navigator.

**PROBABLE FATE OF THE MISSING SHIP.** It was thought by such whalers as have navigated these regions, that the Erebus and Terror were not crushed by any icebergs or field ice, but that they were capsized by being forced upon the surface of partially submerged ice. It was the opinion that the exploring fleet could not penetrate further this season than 72° N. The Arctic sea has been unusually clear of ice, and the winter has been comparatively mild. The mountains surrounding the Arctic Sea showed but little snow at the time of sailing, five feet—not so much as was seen on the Aleutian Islands two months before.

**FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF MAINE.** On Thursday last the sons of Maine resident in Boston had a social festival at Faneuil Hall, which was well attended, and was a very pleasant and successful affair. We make the following abstract from the account in the Boston Journal:—

**Fatal Steam Boiler Explosion.** A telegraphic dispatch dated Providence, Oct. 25th says:—"A steam boiler in the print works in Smithfield, R. I. burst with a terrible explosion about 3 o'clock this morning, instantly killing two operatives, entirely destroying the boiler and engine house, injuring the engineer and several others, probably fatally. One half of the boiler was sent crashing through the bleach house and dry house. The works are owned by Messrs. Scudder & Patterson.

**Revolutionary Pensions.** An exchange paper says there are now surviving about fourteen hundred revolutionary pensioners, all of whom are regularly drawing their pay from the Treasury of the United States.

**Crime in New York.** The New York chief of police has made a report of the operations of his department during the six months ending on the 1st of July last, by which it appears that 17,797 arrests were made, 15 of which were for murder, 6 for forgery, 32 for passing counterfeit money, and 55 for robbery in the first degree. The number of places where liquor is sold is 6759; 4828 of these are licensed, and 1931 not licensed, and 4629 of those places are open on Sunday.

The company began to assemble about seven o'clock, and on entering the hall were conducted to the platform, where they were introduced to the President, Hon. George S. Hillard—**the Band meanwhile delighting the company with some most excellent music.**

Remarks were made and toasts offered by various gentlemen. We notice the following as one of the best toasts:—

**The Daughters of Maine.**—May they never lose the flavor of the soil by being transplanted.

At about half-past ten the President ordered "the decks cleared for action," which in other words meant that preparations should be made for a social hop; and when we left the hall, old and young were gaily enjoying themselves in the gay dancing, and were fully contented until the evening was well nigh spent. The festival as we before remarked, was one of much pleasure to all present. Maine may be proud of her sons and daughters, that which buried them in its ruins.

**ANOTHER.** The grain stores at the Atlantic Docks, occupied by T. Shortland & Son, were set on fire, Sunday evening, together with 70,000 or 80,000 bushels of Wheat and Corn. The total loss is about \$90,000. The grain was principally insured in the New York Corn Exchange, and the buildings and fixtures for \$25,000 in the Aetna and Protection Companies, of Hartford, and one office in Boston.

**SCENE ON BOARD A STEAMBOAT.** Quite a startling affair occurred aboard the steamer *Conn*, last Thursday night, on her trip to Boston from New York. During the evening, a man was observed on the deck, and was known to be a thief. After remaining in this position about an hour, he arose, and drawing a dirk knife, began striking at the passengers, who were thrown into great consternation, as a master of course. Capt. Williams was instantly called, and they finally succeed in getting the desperado upon the forward deck, and closing the door upon him. The captain then proceeded to the upper deck, intending to draw up the ladders and prevent any assault in that quarter. In the meantime the fellow had rushed up the ladder, knife in hand, and all who were near started in regular stand-to.

Mr. Capt. Williams is the forward sailor, and made a pass at him, cutting his clothes and gazing the skin slightly. The Captain jumped back, seized a heavy double chair and hurled it at his assailant, knocking him heels over head in the most approved fashion. A severe struggle then ensued—the ruffian resisted desperately; but he was finally secured and the knife taken from him; after which he was put in a place of safe keeping, and there retained. He is probably "run crazy." We understand he was a mechanic belonging to Norwich; and but for the prompt and resolute conduct of Capt. Williams, he would doubtless have done some serious, if not mortal harm, among the passengers.

**Great Speed by an Aeromat.** A telegraphic despatch from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, says:—"Elliott, the aeromat, who made an ascension at Baltimore to-day, landed at Christiansburg, in this County, making a distance of 80 miles in an hour and ten minutes. The last 36 miles was done in the almost incredible time of twenty minutes. He says he reached an altitude of 4 miles, and was hurried along by a heavy gale nearly the whole distance."

**Coke in Locomotives.** During the last week an attempt was made on the New York and New Haven railroad to substitute coke for wood, as fuel for locomotives. It was found that it was impossible to generate steam with sufficient rapidity by means of coke, causing the train to get "behind time," and wood is now used as before.

**Gas!** **Gas!** The gas works for this city are now nearly completed, so much so that the company have gone to make the gas, and the pipes having been all laid and connected, as far as intended for the present, the gas will be let on this, Tuesday evening—when all who have their fixtures ready can dispense with oil and camphene.

**NORTH ARROOSTOK CATTLE SHOW.** A correspondent writes from Maple Grove, that the Cattle Show and Fair of the North Arroostok Agricultural Society, was not so well attended as formerly, although much better than was anticipated, considering the storm and bad state of the weather."

**Fire in Vienna.** We learn that on Sunday night the 23d inst., two barns belonging to Mr. Fenn, of Vienna, were entirely consumed by fire, together with their contents, consisting of twenty tons of hay, all the farming tools, &c. The loss is about \$500.

**ARMY APPOINTMENTS.** Among the new army appointments and promotions, we notice the appointment of first Lieut. Seth Williams, of this city, of the First Regiment of Artillery, to be Assistant Adjutant General, with the Brevet rank of Captain, vice Mackall, promoted, to date from Aug. 16, 1853.

**THANKSGIVING.** The Governors of Maryland, Ohio, and Indiana, have appointed the 24th inst., as Thanksgiving day. These make nine States, so far, that will observe the 24th.

**BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.** The following members are to be added to the list, this week:—

**Lincoln.**—A. Johnston, Jr., Wiscasset.

**Oxford.**—James Hobbs, Jr., Lovell.

**North Arroostock.**—Bradford Cummings, Maple Grove.

**For the Maine Farmer.**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUSICAL INSTITUTE.** This Institute has just held its fourth annual session at New Sharon. As formerly, it was under the direction of Prof. B. F. Baker, assisted by Mr. C. H. Henderson, Pianist, and Miss Hattie C. Bond, Vocalist. The attendance was large, and the members worked together harmoniously, as well as industriously. At the closing concert of Friday evening, was performed the entire "Oratorio of David" for the first time in the State of Maine. The part of David was sustained by Mr. S. B. Ball, of Boston. It passed well. Competent critics pronounced it well done. It being somewhat singular that a country Institute should be the first to undertake the performance of an entire Oratorio in the State, there was a regular rush for tickets, and some of the listeners came even thirty miles, merely to hear, and very many came from ten to twenty miles for that purpose. The receipts for the concert alone were about fifty-five dollars; a larger sum than ever before realized from a similar undertaking in the State. This Institute is more firmly established, and is an honor to the projectors and to the members. The number of working members attending at this session was about two hundred. One important object of this Institute is the introduction and practice of classical music, the compositions of the great masters in the art. They are succeeding, the increasing interests of the sessions abundantly testify. Let every one to Franklin County for the step she has taken to advance this heavenly art.

**MUSIC.**

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**GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS.** &c.

**Quartz Mining in Grass Valley, California.**

The N. Y. Tribune of July 25, says, We give the following account of the operations of the quartz companies in Grass Valley. The Helvetia and La Fayette Gold Mining Company was formed in July, 1852. This Company have a mill with an excellent engine, working that kind of machinery for crushing quartz and saving the gold, which is most approved in the present condition of the art. The mill has 18 stampers, each working 800 lbs., and is supplied with its quartz from claims the Company own on Gold, Massachusetts and La Fayette Hills. The Company has expended some \$20,000 since August last, in such operations as are necessary to open mines, in the way of sinking shafts and running tunnels, besides what had been previously laid out. There are two tunnels in La Fayette Hill, one two and the other four hundred feet in length. These tunnels have developed vast ledges of rock and the working of a great number of tons has proved to be quite a most encouraging average yield. This hill was taken up originally by Frenchmen who realized a handsome sum from it in a short while. \$95,000 were taken out before the present Company came into its possession, and all the operations on the hill up to this time, have but gone to prove the inexhaustible amount of wealth that is yet to be found within its limits. For further particulars see advertisement of this Company in our issue of this month.

**Brick Buildings in the Mountains.** The little town of Yreka, almost up to the Oregon boundary line, is already boasting of its brick buildings, and the Herald says that the clink of the mason's trowel and stone cutter's chime may be heard from morning to night.

**The Chincha Islands Outrage.** A letter from Valparaiso states that the Peruvian Government had offered Capt. McClellan \$20,000 as compensation for the outrage committed on him at the Chincha Islands, which he had refused.

**Waterville College.** Robert E. Pattison, D. D., has accepted the Presidency of this institution, and will enter upon the duties of his office at the commencement of the next term.

**New Post Office.** We learn that a new Post Office has been established at North Newry in Oxford county, and Ithiel Smith, Esq., appointed Postmaster.

**Re-established.** The Post Office at Fort Fairfield, Aroostook County, has been re-established, and John B. Trafton, Esq. appointed Postmaster.

**Indisposition of the Editor.** The indisposition of the Editor, and the newness of the situation to the P. P. D., who has attempted this week to fill the chair editorial, must be the excuse for the lack of editorial matter, and other short comings in this number.

**THE STEAMER JOHN MARSHALL.** This steamer arrived from New York, Oct. 24, by the 18th Ward Police, for bigamy. The accused is charged with marrying two young women within two weeks. The circumstances are these:—On Monday evening, Oct. 10, after a service at the church, he married Anna, a widow of New Haven, and on the following day he brought the bride to this city, where he sold her all her earnings for two years, amounting to about \$70. With this money Kearny sported about the city until Wednesday evening, when he had \$12 left. Finding his funds getting low, he in the meantime had contracted to marry another girl, no doubt with a view of replenishing his portmanteau. On Wednesday night he was walking through the street with his wife, when he made a excuse, saying that he was going to buy a second-hand coat. The Managers were liberal in their arrangements, and a young girl, with a view of replenishing his portmanteau, was engaged to marry him. He did not return to her, but heard nothing more of her husband until last evening, when some friend told her that Kearny had married another girl in 36th street near 3d Avenue, the night he left her. The boy left her.

**UNION HALL.** The steamer *John Marshall*,

arrived at New York on the 19th inst.

**Loss of a Whaler.** The whaler *Citizen*, of New Bedford, is reported in recent accounts from the Arctic Ocean, to have been lost in the fall of 1852, but the particulars are not given. It is stated that the crew, after consuming what provisions there were on board, started for some settlement, and that several of them died. The captain and remainder of the crew succeeded in getting on board a ship in July. The *Citizen*, when last heard from, had a cargo of 2200 barrels oil, and since last spring great anxiety had been felt for her safety.

**WRECK OF AN EMIGRANT SHIP.**

**Loss of 350 Lives.** By the steamer *Oct.*

**8th**, we have a brief account of the loss on the coast of Ireland of the emigrant ship *Annie Jane*, from England for Quebec, with a cargo of railroad iron and nearly 500 passengers. The *Annie Jane* gives the particulars of this disaster.

**After the ship struck,** an attempt was made to launch the boats; the life boat was lost, and the other boats were of no use, for they were all fixed down, or secured, or lay bottom up. While the passengers were thus clustered around the boats, the ship was struck by



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## The Muse.

From Blackwood's Magazine.

THE FOUNDING OF THE BELL.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

Hark! how the furnace pants and roars!  
Hark! how the molten metal pours,  
As bursting from its iron doors,  
It glitters in the sun!

Now through the ready mould it flows,  
Seething and hissing as it goes,  
And filling every crevice up  
As the red vintage fills the cup:

Hurra! the work is done!

Unwatches him now. Take off each stay  
That binds him to his couch of clay,  
And let him struggle into day;

Let chain and pulley run,

With yielding crank and steady rope,  
Until he rises from riot to cope,  
In rounded beauty ribbed with strength,  
Without a flaw in all its length;

Hurra! the work is done!

The clapper on his giant side  
Shall ring no peal for blushing bride,  
For birth, or death, or new year-tide,  
Or festival begun?

A nation's joy alone shall be  
The sign for his revelry;  
And for a nation's woes alone  
His melancholy tongue shall moan;

Hurra! the work is done!

Borne on the gale, deep-toned and clear,  
His long, loud summons shall we hear,  
When statesmen to their country dear,  
Their mortal race have run;

When mighty monarchs yield their breath,  
And patriots sleep the sleep of death,  
Then shall he raise his voice of gloom,  
And call a requiem o'er the tomb;

Hurra! the work is done!

Should foemen lift their haughty hand,  
And dare invade us where we stand,  
We'll gather every one;

And he shall ring the loud alarm,  
To call the multitude to arm,  
From distant field and forest brown,  
And toemng alleys of the town;

Hurra! the work is done!

As the solemn boom they hear,  
Old men shall grasp their idle spear,  
Laid by to rust for many a year;

And to the struggle run;

Young men shall leave their toll of books;  
Or turn to swords their pruning hooks;  
And maidens have sweetest smiles for those  
Who battle with their country's foes;

Hurra! the work is done!

And when the cannon's iron breath  
Shall bear no need to shells remote,  
And toemng alleys of the town;

That victory is won;

While down the wind the banner drops,  
And foibles blare on mountain tops,

His sides shall glow with fierce delight,  
And ring glad peals from moonlight!

Hurra! the work is done!

And when the iron's iron breath  
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And ring glad peals from moonlight!

Hurra! the work is done!

And when the iron's iron breath  
Shall bear no need to shells remote,  
And toemng alleys of the town;

That victory is won;

While down the wind the banner drops,  
And foibles blare on mountain tops,

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